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1763

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| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number | 09/920,891 |
| | Filing Date | August 2, 2001 |
| | First Named Inventor | Kwan, Michael |
| | Art Unit | 1763 |
| | Examiner Name | Kackar, Ram N. |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | A4231/T34410 |

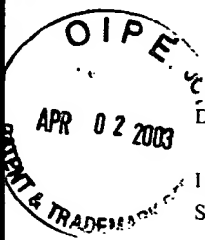
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| Firm or Individual | Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP Patrick M. Boucher Reg. No. 44,037 |
| Signature | <i>Patrick M. Boucher</i> |
| Date | April 2, 2003 |

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| Date | April 2, 2003 |

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By Aria L. McNeill

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: A4231/T34410
AMAT No.:
A4231/USA/D01/DSM/HDP/CVD/JW
TTC No.: 016301-034410US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Michael Kwan et al.

Application No.: 09/920,891

Filed: August 2, 2001

For: GAS CHEMISTRY CYCLING TO
ACHIEVE HIGH ASPECT RATIO
GAPFILL WITH HDP-CVD

Examiner: Kackar, Ram N.

Art Unit: 1763

RESPONSE

#17
4/9/03
M.W.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 2, 2003 (paper no. 16), please enter the following remarks:

REMARKS

Claims 17 – 22 have been examined and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,990,000 ("Hong") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,030,881 ("Papasouliotis"). Claims 17 and 20 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Hong in view of Papasouliotis and U.S. Pat. No. 6,268,274 ("Wang"). The rejections are respectfully traversed. For convenience, a copy of the currently pending claims is provided in an Appendix.

In Applicants' previous response, it was noted that no *prima facie* case had been established under §103(a) at least because no documentary support drawn from the dep/etch/dep art had been provided for the cooling step recited in independent Claims 17 and 20. Such a